

The Maori people were the first settlers to New Zealand.

The Te Arawa canoe landed at Maketu on the coast of the Bay of Plenty around 1340 AD. Te Arawa people initially settled on the coast. Some 5 generations later, a young Arawa man by the name of Ihenga came across a lake. This lake, which he named Rotoiti or Small Lake, lies to the north east of Rotorua.

Within Rotorua District there is a significant Maori population, with many tribes and sub tribes, each with their own unique customs. While New Zealand is increasingly a multi-cultural society, Maori culture and values, are a strong and vital cornerstone of this country. Rotorua is considered the Maori cultural capital of New Zealand.

For further information go to:

www.rotoruanz.com
cultural performances

www.creativerotorua.org.nz
art galleries and local artists



Maori Language (Te reo)

Learning the Maori language (te reo) is a good way to gain an understanding of Maori culture.

Classes are available at:

Waiariki Institute of Technology

Mokoia Drive
T. 0800 924 274
www.waiariki.ac.nz

Te Wananga o Aotearoa

1 Dinsdale Road, Rotorua
T. 07 349 2360
www.twoa.ac.nz

Websites

Korero Maori

www.koreromaori.co.nz

This website is for everyone who wants to speak the Maori language, or learn more about it.

You can find interactive conversations, language resources, and advice to help you increase your knowledge of reo Maori.

Maori language online

www.maori.org.nz/Kotereo

Maori language online

Learning Media

www.learningmedia.co.nz

A range of online Maori language resources

Maori Television

Korero Mai - using drama to teach reo Maori.

www.maoritelevision.com

Maori Language (Te reo)

Common Maori words and their English translation

Greetings

Haere mai	Welcome, come here
Haere ra	Goodbye, farewell
Kia ora	Hello, thank-you (informal)
Ka pai	Okay, good
Morena	Good morning
Tena koe	Hello, greeting to one person
Tena korua	Greeting, two people
Tena koutou	Greeting, three or more people

People

Iwi	Tribe
Hapu	Sub-tribe
Kaumatua	Respected male elder
Kuia	Female elder
Manuhiri	Visitors, guests
Pakeha	European
Tangata whenua	People of the land
Te Arawa	Name of Rotorua tribe (there are many sub tribes)
Whakapapa	Family tree
Whanau	Family

Protocol

Hongi	Press noses in greeting
Karakia	Prayer, blessing
Korero	Chat, talk, speech
Mihi	Greeting
Powhiri	Formal welcome ceremony
Waiata	Song, chant, lament

Food

Kai	Food
Kaimoana	Food from the sea
Marae	Tribal gathering place
Hangi	Earth oven
Puha	Native vegetable grown in the wild
Rewena	Traditional Maori bread

General

Haka	War cry, posture dance
Hikoi	Walk
Hui	Meeting, gathering
Kete	Flax woven basket
Koha	Donation
Koru	Unfolding fern frond
Mana	Prestige, dignity
Moe	Sleep
Poi	Flax ball on the end of string used during performance
Puku	Stomach
Rangatahi	Youth, Teenager
Roto	Lake, water
Rotorua	The second lake
Tamariki	Children
Tangi	Funeral
Taonga	Treasured, precious
Tapu	Sacred
Te Reo	Maori language

Places within Rotorua District of Maori Significance

St Faith's Anglican Church

Mataiawhea Street, Ohinemutu, Rotorua.

This is a historic Maori church with a beautifully decorated interior.

Rotorua Museum

Government Gardens
Rotorua

www.rotoruanz.com/rotorua_museum

The Museum has a number of significant permanent exhibitions.

- 'The Treasures of Te Arawa', the original inhabitants of Rotorua District.



- 'Tarawera, a Sacred Mountain'
- 'The Story of B Company 28 Maori Battalion'

Okere Falls Scenic Reserve

Trout Pool Rd, off State Highway 33 (21km north of Rotorua)

The Okere river is rich in resources and is the traditional river of Ngati Pikiiao people.

The main track which leads to the main waterfall, to Hinemoa's Steps which are built into the rock face, which lead to the Tutea Caves.

Websites

www.maori.org.nz

Your first stop for finding information about things Maori.

Te Ara - The Encyclopaedia of New Zealand

www.teara.govt.nz

Te Ara - The Encyclopaedia of New Zealand offers many pathways to understanding New Zealand. When complete, it will be a comprehensive guide to the country's peoples, natural environment, history, culture, economy, institutions and society.

New Zealand History online

www.nzhistory.net.nz

www.matariki.net.nz

Information about the Maori New Year